



**ASIASchool  
of Business**  
in collaboration with MIT Sloan Management

Idlif Executive Education Center

# GLOBAL LEADERS PROGRAM

Shenzhen & Guilin, China  
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
Bangkok, Thailand

25-28 Aug  
8-11 Sep  
19-22 Oct

**2025**







# OVERVIEW

This is an exclusive program that is specially designed for Chief Executive Officers and other busy C-Suite executives who want to garner market insights that will help them straddle the challenges of managing people amidst an increasingly tighter regulatory environment, new technologies, pressing sustainability issues and a rapidly-changing geopolitical landscape.

The program has been curated bearing in mind the uniqueness of each of the selected locations – Kuala Lumpur, Shenzhen & Guilin, and Bangkok. Each city offers a different yet unique learning opportunity grounded within its rich historical and cultural heritage, and stage of economic development.

**Recognizing the busy schedules of senior executives, this program offers participants the choice of attending the program in one or two countries of their choice, or alternatively, in all three program locations.**

The program begins in **Shenzhen & Guilin** in China where the focus will be on sustainability and technology: whether in the context of cybersecurity, healthcare, manufacturing and environmental protection. Learning will be through multiple immersive visits, talks and moderated panel discussions.

The next program location is **Kuala Lumpur** where the Asia School of Business – a leading educational institution backed by Bank Negara Malaysia (Central Bank of Malaysia) and established in collaboration with MIT Sloan – is located. An impressive line-up of speakers will combine both academic rigor with practitioner experience to help participants navigate the changing geopolitical landscape, develop strong governance, implement winning strategies, capitalize on Islamic Finance, and decipher artificial intelligence as a competitive edge.

The final program location is **Bangkok** in Thailand where the learning will focus on sustainable development and talent management strategy. The program in Bangkok includes the option of attending a conference on the final day.



Participants can be assured of an interesting and comprehensive learning journey that will include interactive lectures, group discussions and immersive visits that will combine theory with practice; as well as networking sessions that will seal connections between participants, speakers and other leaders for years to come.

## PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

At the end of the program, participants will be able to:

- Gain insights on key areas of geopolitics, governance, finance, sustainability and technology.
- Discuss sustainability best practices through immersive visits.
- Encourage innovation from the application of cutting-edge technologies.
- Develop effective leadership strategies in driving corporate transformation.
- Establish new networks and connect with other leaders.

## WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

- Chief Executive Officers
- C-Suite executives

## TRAVEL & MEAL GUIDELINES

- Participants are responsible to apply for their own travel visas, where applicable.
- Arrangements for halal meals will be made wherever possible.



## PROGRAM FEES (subject to SST of 8% for program fee in Kuala Lumpur)

### Single Country ONLY

	Malaysians	Non-Malaysians
Malaysia <small>(Accommodation at Majestic Hotel)</small>	RM 25,000	USD 6,500
China or Thailand	RM 28,000	USD 7,300

### Two (2) or Three (3) Countries

	Malaysians	Non-Malaysians
2 countries	RM 50,000	USD 13,000
3 countries	RM 75,000	USD 19,500

### INCLUDES:

- Ground transport during program days.
- Hotel in each program location for 5 nights inclusive of breakfast.
- In-program meals: all lunches and at least 2 dinners at each location.

### EXCLUDES:

- Cost of airfare, visa applications, travel insurance and airport transfers.

## HRD CORP TERMS & CONDITIONS:

- The claimable amount per participant is:

Location	Program Fee	Approved Allowance
Malaysia, China & Thailand	RM 63,250/pax	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 50% Overseas Allowance (RM750/pax/day)</li><li>• 50% economy airfare</li></ul>
Malaysia & China	RM 45,210/pax	
Malaysia & Thailand	RM 31,390/pax	
China & Thailand	Pending approval from HRD Corp	

- **Maximum 4 participants per company.**
- **Only Malaysian employees of registered contributors of HRD Corp** are eligible for the above claim benefits.
- **Full attendance** during the program is **compulsory**.
- The **final claimable amount** is subject to **HRD Corp's approval**.
- All other Terms & Conditions imposed by HRD Corp remained applicable for this program.

# PROGRAM AGENDA \*

## August

25-28 August 2025  
Shenzhen & Guilin | China

### 24 Arrival in Shenzhen

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### 25 Huawei Headquarters

- Visit Exhibition Hall: showcase solutions in the enterprise space
- Presentation: Reshaping the Future with Innovations in ICT and AI
- Presentation: Development of Digital Payments in China (including Central Bank Digital Currency)

### Huawei Campus @Dongguan Song Shan Lake Campus

- Visit Global R&D Center
  - Visit Global Cyber Security Transparency Center
  - Presentation: AI Innovations
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### 26 UBTECH Robotics

- Company tour
- Presentation: AI & Big Data in Entrepreneurship

### Taikang Insurance Group

- Observe real-time integration of insurance workflows with hospital operations
  - Fireside chat with Taikang C-Suite
- 

### 27 High Speed Rail to Guilin (3 hours)

### Esquel Group's Eco Industrial Garden (Integral)

- Presentation: Esquel's Transformation Journey
  - The Integral Project
  - Company tour
- 

### 28 Esquel Group's Eco Industrial Garden (Integral)

- Sustainable Supply Chain
  - Walkabout in natural dye botanic garden
  - Workshop: Natural Dye
  - Executive Sharing: Esquel's Sustainable Strategies
  - Mindfulness Workshop
  - Executive Sharing: Sustainable Workforce
- 

- River Cruise on Li River
  - Evening show
- 

### 29 High Speed Rail/Flight home

#### Hotel

24 - 26 August

Futian Shangri-La | 4088 Yi Tian Road, Futian District, Shenzhen

27 - 28 August

Steinberger Guilin | 398 Dayan Road, Guilin



## PROGRAM AGENDA <sup>\*</sup>

September

8 – 11 September 2025  
Kuala Lumpur | Malaysia

### 7 Arrival in Kuala Lumpur

### 8 Strategic Leadership for Turbulent Times

- How does a leader craft a relevant strategy in the midst of enormous external challenges?
- How does a leader steer the organization for growth and resilience?
- What are the critical factors that must be in place for organizational success?

### 9 Sustainable Finance

- Rise in the role of sustainable finance
- Opportunities presented by sustainable finance

#### Islamic Finance

- Distinctiveness of Islamic Finance
- Islamic Finance landscape in Malaysia
- Opportunities presented by Islamic Finance

#### Visit to Islamic Art Museum

### 10 President Trump and the Future of International Economic Relations

- What are the factors driving the current US policies?
- What is the impact on economies within the ASEAN region?
- Will the role of the USD evolve in the international monetary system?

#### Networking Session

### 11 Riding the GenAI Wave

- The rise of AI and its enormous capabilities
- How do we ride the GenAI wave?
- What are the implications if we don't?
- Hands-on activities

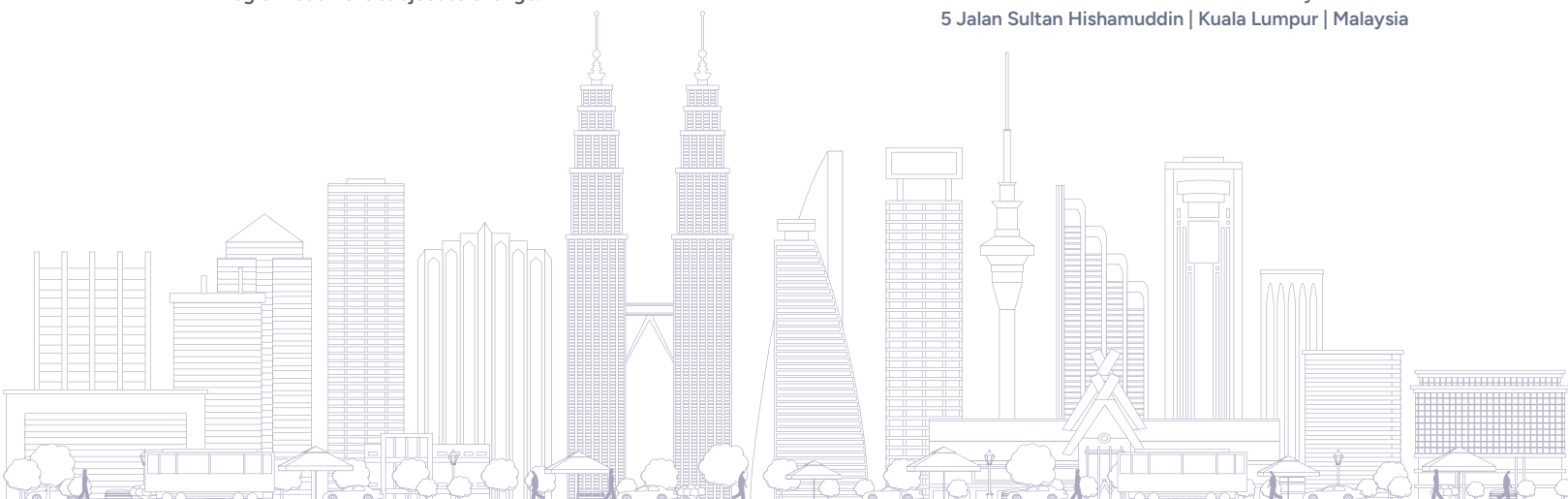
### 12 Flight home

\* Program outline is subject to change.

Hotel

*Majestic Hotel*

5 Jalan Sultan Hishamuddin | Kuala Lumpur | Malaysia



## PROGRAM AGENDA <sup>\*</sup>

October

19 - 22 October 2025

Bangkok | Thailand

18 **Arrival in Bangkok**

19 **Strategic Talent Management: Building Deeper & Better Leadership Pipelines**

- How to analyze business strategy to identify human capital implications?
- How to work with your executive team to build your talent philosophy?
- Cutting through the noise of Leadership Competency models
- How to identify critical roles?
- How to hold leaders accountable for their roles as “talent leaders” in the organization – the metrics that matter?

20 **Case Study: Doi Tung Development Project**

- History and background to the Doi Tung Development Project
- Strategies & key success factors
- Challenges faced moving forward

### **Strategies for Sustainable Development**

- How to develop a strategy for sustainable development that is appropriate for your organization?
- What are the common pitfalls to avoid?

21 **The Art of Managing Stakeholders**

- How to identify and prioritize your most important stakeholders?
- Finding win-win solutions to stakeholder engagement difficulties

### **Networking Session**

22 **Global Economic Forum 2025 (optional) <sup>\*\*</sup>**

23 **Flight home**

### **Hotel**

*Centara Grand Hotel at Central World*  
999/99 Rama 1 Road, Pathumwan, Bangkok





# GLOBAL ECONOMIC FORUM 2025 \*\*

[www.cisw-geforum.org](http://www.cisw-geforum.org)

The Global Economic Forum (GEF) 2025 is designed to foster global collaboration and sustainable economic growth. It will bring together thought leaders, businesses, and experts across various industries to discuss critical economic trends and opportunities. The event will focus on driving innovation, building strategic partnerships, and identifying solutions for global challenges.

**Date | Time** October 22, 2025 | 0900-1830

**Venue** Centara Grand & Bangkok Convention Centre at Bangkok  
Convention Centre at Central World

## TOPICS

### *Health and Wellness Economics in the Global Context*

Impact of health crises on global economies: discussion on how pandemics and health issues (e.g. Covid-19) impact economies worldwide.

### *Global Economic Trends for 2025 & Financing the Green Transition*

Exploring technology's role in shaping global economic recovery with artificial intelligence, automation and fintech leading the way in shaping economic structures.

### *US Leadership and Global Geopolitics in 2025*

Analyzing the shift in US foreign and domestic policies under Donald Trump's second term as President, focusing on the implications for international trade, alliances and global stability.

### *Digital Currencies and the Future of Finance*

Exploring how digital currencies especially central bank digital currencies (CBDCs) are reshaping global financial systems and investment opportunities.

### *Socio-Political and Economic Stability in Emerging Markets*

Focusing on the economic rise of Southeast Asia and India, with emphasis on how these regions can contribute to global growth.

### *Technology and Digital Transformation: Shaping the Future*

Technology and digital transformation are shaping the global economy, driving innovation, new market opportunities, and sustainable growth through advancements like AI and Blockchain.

## CONFERENCE KEYNOTE SPEAKERS (for full list of speakers, please refer to the website)

### **Dr Narongchai Akrasanee**

President of the Council of Khon Kaen University

Former Minister of Energy of Thailand

Founding Member and Director of Thailand Development Research Institute

### **Dr Kobsak Pootrakool**

Federation of Thai Capital Market Organizations (FETCO)

Former Minister at Office at the Minister

Government of Thailand

### **Professor Dr Joseph Cherian**

CEO, President and Dean

Distinguished Professor

Asia School of Business





## FACULTY PROFILES



**Prof Joseph Cherian**, a distinguished leader in academia and business, is CEO, President, and Dean of the Asia School of Business. As Professor of Finance, he possesses a highly versatile, varied and distinguished international background, spanning academia, global financial markets, and strategic leadership in education. Professor Cherian's academic career in teaching and researching finance, asset management and portfolio investments includes top global universities including Cornell University, National University of Singapore, and Boston University. Apart from teaching at the Asia School of Business, he most recently served as Visiting Professor of Finance of the Samuel Curtis Johnson Graduate School of Management at the SC Johnson College of Business, Cornell University.

Professor Cherian's professional experience in the financial services sector spanned asset management where he managed US\$67 billion in client assets as Global Head and Chief Investment Officer of the Quantitative Strategies Group at Credit Suisse Asset Management. While at Credit Suisse, he served on the Global Executive Committee, as well as various senior management, investments, and risk committees of the Asset Management division. He joined the financial industry in New York after an academic career in the US, including as an Associate Professor of Finance at Boston University. He continues to be involved in the financial industry through advisory roles to governments and think-tanks in the Asia-Pacific region, including Australia, Malaysia, Hong Kong and Singapore, in areas such as venture funds, asset management, pensions and capital market policies and reforms.

He was formerly an Executive-in-Residence and a two-term member of the Johnson Graduate School of Management's Dean's Advisory Council at Cornell University and is now an Emeritus Member of the Dean's Council. Joe currently serves as an Advisor to Asia Asset Management in Hong Kong, the Mercer-CFA Institute Global Pensions Index's Advisory Board in Australia, and is a member of the Board of the Institute for Capital Market Research, an initiative by the Securities Commission Malaysia. He has had appointments at Singapore's Central Provident Fund (CPF) Advisory Panel and the National Research Foundation's Early-Stage Venture Fund Evaluation Panel; Professor Cherian continues to serve as an ad hoc advisor to the Singapore government.

Professor Cherian was an Independent Non-Executive Director of Bursa Malaysia in Kuala Lumpur, a Scientific Advisor to Nipun Capital, a boutique hedge fund based in San Francisco, a consultant to Fullerton Fund Management, a Temasek subsidiary in Singapore, Singapore Exchange (SGX), and served on the Journal of Alternative Investments' Editorial Board in the US. Joe holds a B.Sc. in Electrical Engineering from MIT, and M.Sc. and PhD degrees in Finance from Cornell University.



**Prof. Hans Genberg** is a Professor of Economics at the Asia School of Business and the Senior Director of Central Banking and Finance Programs. He has a distinguished academic career as a Professor of Economics at the Graduate Institute of International Studies in Geneva, where he was also Head of the International Economics Department, responsible for the Diploma program, and a member of the Institute's Executive Committee. He has also had teaching positions at the Graduate School of Business at the University of Chicago and the University of Rochester campus in Switzerland.

During his position as Professor at the Graduate Institute of International Studies, he supervised or co-supervised over thirty doctoral dissertations of

students who have since held positions as Central Bank Governors and Deputy Governors, senior officials at the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, the Bank for International Settlements, and the Norwegian Oil Fund, and academic positions at universities such as HEC Montreal, Boston College, New York University, and Wharton.

Professor Genberg has also held positions as Executive Director at the Hong Kong Monetary Authority and at the SEACEN Centre in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, Assistant Director at the Independent Evaluation Office of the IMF, as well as Director of the International Center for Monetary and Banking Studies and Director of Executive Education at the International Center FAME (Financial Asset Management and Engineering) in Geneva, Switzerland.

He has published over fifty scholarly papers and edited several books on issues related to central bank policy, international monetary relations, exchange rate regimes, reserve management, capital markets development, and monetary and financial issues in Asia.

Professor Genberg holds a PhD in Economics from the University of Chicago.

## FACULTY PROFILES



**Dr David Asirvatham** is Professor of Practice (AI & Technology) at the Asia School of Business (ASB), which was established in collaboration with MIT Sloan. He has been in the academic leadership and CIO roles for 30 years. His areas of expertise include Digital Neural Network, E-Learning Technologies, ICT Project Management, Multimedia Content Creation and AI.

Prior to joining ASB, he was the executive dean for the Faculty of Innovation and Technology at Taylor's University, director of the Centre of Information Technology at the University of Malaya, and CIO/senior director of the Centre for Information at Multimedia University. He has held numerous posts, including Associate Dean for Faculty of Information Technology (Multimedia University), Project Manager for the Multimedia and IT Infrastructure Development for a university campus (US\$14 million project), and SAP Advisory for High Education Council (Germany).

He was the Chairman of the ICT Human Capital Development for 11th Malaysia Plan 2016-2020, Secretary for the Artificial Intelligence Society Malaysia, President of the Data Science Association (Malaysia) 2022-2025, Country Representative for the Asia E-learning Network (Japan), Steering Committee Member for the Implementation of E-Learning for Malaysian Public Sector, and Member of the Malaysian Grid for Learning's Standards Expert Group 2003-2004.

He also worked on various ICT Projects and conducted workshops in South Africa, Sudan, Iran, Ghana, Kenya, Vietnam, Maldives, Bangladesh (World Bank Project), UAE, India, and Brunei. David completed his Ph.D. from Multimedia University, M.Sc. (Digital System) from Brunel University (U.K.), and B.Sc. (Hons) Ed., and Post-Graduate Diploma in Computer Science from the University of Malaya. He has published over 70 academic papers and graduated 10 PhD students.



**Philip Whittaker** is a seasoned executive with over 25 years of diverse experience in corporate and entrepreneurial settings. He has an impressive track record in founding companies, launching successful ventures, and managing key business functions such as sales, marketing, and operations across multiple industries, including retail, leisure, hospitality, sports, entertainment, media, and financial services. His strategic acumen is further highlighted by his collaborations with government entities in Australia and South East Asia.

In his most recent role as CEO of Sim Leisure Group Ltd, a Singapore-listed company headquartered in Kuala Lumpur, Philip's leadership helped guide the company through a very dynamic and challenging period. His 3.5-year tenure also included roles as Commercial Director and Corporate Advisor.

Prior to this, he dedicated over 9 years at Themed Attractions Resorts & Hotels Sdn. Bhd., a subsidiary of Khazanah Nasional Berhad, in roles such as CEO Attractions, Chief Commercial Officer, and Chief Marketing Officer where we successfully launched and managed multiple leisure assets.

Before his tenure with Themed Attractions, Philip accumulated over a decade of experience in senior roles in marketing, operations, and management. He worked with global brands such as Village Roadshow Theme Parks, Goodwill Games, and Warner Bros. Entertainment, and various national sporting bodies in Australia. Additionally, Philip successfully founded and managed his own consulting, marketing, and PR agencies, collaborating with numerous companies across diverse industries.

Philip combines a deep appreciation for local cultures with a global business perspective. For the past 13 years, he has called Malaysia home, fully embracing its vibrant culture while maintaining a strategic outlook that spans across continents.

As a strategic management practitioner, Philip's blend of extensive experience, strategic management skills, and leadership expertise positions him as a valuable asset to any organization seeking to be more effective with its leadership. His proven ability to drive business growth, develop and execute comprehensive strategies, and engage effectively with diverse stakeholders will be invaluable to any organization looking to achieve its strategic goals.

## FACULTY PROFILES



**Marjorie Yang** is the Chairman of Esquel Group. As a strong believer in sustainable development and environmental conservation, Marjorie is a member of the High Level Steering Committee of UN Global Compact Action Platform on "Sustainable Infrastructure for the Belt and Road Initiative to accelerate the SDGs" and the Advisory Council of China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development (CCICED). Marjorie also sits on advisory boards for Harvard, MIT Sloan, and Tsinghua University.



**Teresa Yang** is the Vice Chairman of Esquel Group. Beyond her work with the group, she serves as Honorary Chairman of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Textiles (HKGCOT) and as Chairman of the Hong Kong Research Institute of Textiles and Apparel (HKRITA). She is actively involved in advancing Hong Kong's textile and clothing industry and serves a member of the Clothing Industry Training Authority (CITA). She was honored with the title of "2022 China Textile Industry Innovator" by the China National Textile and Apparel Council (CNTAC).



**Calvin Tsang** is the Chairman of Esquel China Holdings Ltd, a subsidiary that operates Esquel Group's businesses in China. A member of the senior management team for two decades, Calvin joined Esquel in 2002 as the Assistant General Manager for cotton operation in Xinjiang, followed by various positions in sales, operation and a range of supporting functions. Prior to joining Esquel, Calvin had served both international management consultancy and start-up ventures in China, from where he earned extensive experiences in operation and human resources management.



**Queenie Huang** serves as Chief People Officer of Esquel Group, leading strategic HR integration across manufacturing ecosystems with operational excellence. Evolved from 1994 management trainee to global leadership, she steered R&D innovation (2006-2009) and operational transformation (2010-2015) while advancing proprietary brand development. Queenie holds an MBA from Cardiff University Business School.





## FACULTY PROFILES



**Gillian Ng** is Executive Director of Iclif Executive Education Center of the Asia School of Business. She heads the team that is responsible for the running of a whole host of corporate governance programs including the Financial Institutions Directors' Education (FIDE) program, the Mandatory Accreditation Program (MAP), the Money Services Business Directors' Education Program (MDEP) and the Shariah Leaders Education program for shariah committee members of Islamic financial institutions.

Gillian is the Lead Faculty for MDEP. She also teaches in the Pathway to a Governance Practitioner Program namely the Risk Management module and other custom-built programs. Before that, she was in Bank Negara Malaysia and was in the Prudential Financial Policy Department where the area of work tasked under her was to improve the level of Corporate Governance in the financial sector. She has also had more than 20 years of experience in the area of Statutory and Internal Auditing, Forensic Investigations and setting up Enterprise Risk Management Systems for various Public Listed Companies.

Gillian was appointed to the National Mirrors Committee (Governance of Organizations Committee) under the ambit of the Governance, Integrity and Anti-Corruption Centre (GIACC) and headed the Secretariat team to the National Special Committee on Corporate Governance (NSCCG) which is the Committee reporting to the Special Committee on Anti-Corruption led by the Prime Minister.

Gillian holds a Bachelor of Arts, majoring in Accounting and Business Administration from the Strathclyde Business School in Glasgow where she was awarded a Best in Class Scholarship. She also completed her Certified Public Accounting (MICPA) exams and was a PWC Silver medallist for the subject of Management Information Systems. In November 2017, Gillian was awarded the FT Non-Executive Director Program (Level 7) Diploma (with a score of 100% for every module).



**Peter Attfield** is the founder and Managing Director of The Inflection Point. He is a strategic HR thought partner and "pracademic" with a proven global track record in HR Business Partnering and Expertise leadership across multiple sectors and geographies. Most recently, he was the Chief Talent & Learning Officer for Jardine Matheson based in Hong Kong from 2018 to 2024, after a long HR career with and consulting to Unilever. He is now the Managing Director of The Inflection Point, APAC Representative for the Talent Strategy Group, an IMD Executive in Residence and a Certified Chair with the Advisory Board Centre.

Peter has deep expertise, and nearly four decades of experience in large-scale organization and culture transformation, strategic talent management L&D and leadership development. Additionally, he has significant experience in building HR functional excellence in both MNC's and large regional family-owned businesses.

Peter is a truly global citizen with cultural awareness and adaptability. He has lived in 10 countries and worked in, or visited, some 85 others with significant emerging markets experience in Latin America, Asia and the Middle East.



**Ramrada Ninnad** is Head of Sustainability at the Mae Fah Luang Foundation (MFLF), Thailand. The MFLF is an internationally renowned not-for-profit organization at the forefront of sustainable alternative livelihood development, nature-based solutions, and social entrepreneurship efforts to foster improved well-being of communities along with nature. Ramrada's experience in sustainable development spans two decades, through policy advisory, field implementation, private sector ESG consultancy, and social enterprise management roles, working together with government, non-profit, international development, academic, community, and private sectors. She has driven international collaboration initiatives on policy development and good practice sharing on alternative development and nature-related financing to enhance resilience for marginalized communities.



Iclif Executive Education Center

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